

YEŞİM NAZLAR:

Please... Let's please start the recording, and I'll go ahead with the roll call. Good morning, good afternoon, and good evening to everyone. Welcome to the At-Large Capacity Building Program 2016, our webinar on the topic "Public Technical Identifiers (PTI)," taking place on Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> of December, 2016, at 20:00 UTC.

We will not be doing the roll call, as it's a webinar, but if I could please remind all participants on the phone bridge, as well as computers, to mute your speakers and microphones when not speaking. Please don't forget to state your name before speaking, not only for the transcript purposes, but to allow our interpreters to identify you on the other language channels. We have English, Spanish, and French interpretation.

Thank you all for joining. And now turning over to Tijani Ben Jemaa, the Chair of At-Large Capacity Building Working Group. Thank you very much, and over to you, Tijani.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA:

Thank you, Yeşim. Good morning, good afternoon, good evening, everyone. This is the 12<sup>th</sup> webinar of our Capacity Building Program for 2016. This webinar will be about the Public Technical Identifiers, or, if you want, the post-transition IANA. We have two distinguished speakers: Lise Fuhr, who used to be one of the co-Chairs of the CWG transition, and Mohamed El Bashir, who used to be one of the Vice Chairs of the ICG. Those two speakers will today explain to you what is

---

*Note: The following is the output resulting from transcribing an audio file into a word/text document. Although the transcription is largely accurate, in some cases may be incomplete or inaccurate due to inaudible passages and grammatical corrections. It is posted as an aid to the original audio file, but should not be treated as an authoritative record.*

the PTI. And before we go forward, I will ask the staff – Yeşim particularly – to make some housekeeping announcement. So, Yeşim, please go ahead.

YEŞİM NAZLAR:

Thanks so much, Tijani. Let's take a quick look at the housekeeping presentation. Okay. So we will have a question-and-answer part during this webinar. As you see, it's located on the left-hand side of the AC room. So if you have any questions, we do encourage you to type them in here, and they will be directed to our presenters.

We also have a pop-quiz section. And as you see, it will be located on the middle-right side of the AC. After the speakers' presentations, please be ready to answer the questions posted in the pop quiz.

And finally, we'll have a user experience part. There will be a seven-question survey at the end of the webinar, so please stay around for three minutes or so to get them completed. Thanks so much, and back over to you, Tijani.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA:

Thank you very much, Yeşim. So now that [those articles] are done, I will ask Mohamed and Lise to make their presentation about PTI. So Mohamed and Lise, please go ahead. Who will go first? I think Mohamed, perhaps. Mohamed?

---

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Thank you very much, Tijani. Good morning, good evening, good afternoon, everyone. Thank you very much, Tijani.

So in my presentation, I will present to you IANA functions and the history of the IANA functions until the establishment of PTI. I hope you can hear me very well.

YEŞİM NAZLAR: Yes, Mohamed, we can hear you well.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Thank you very much. So a just bit of history. Before the establishment of ICANN, let be told the IANA critical functions for the Internet were done by John Postel. And John Postel, he's one of the great fathers of the Internet. John Postel was working at the Information Sciences Institute at the University of Southern California, which that center had a contract with the Department of Defense. And at that time, John Postel was managing the IANA functions. There is some people, elderly people now, fathers of the Internet now, who remember the days when they'd get IP addresses [written in] and not data given by [inaudible] at that time. So this function of this critical IANA function then has been managed by ICANN under a contract between ICANN and the US Department of Commerce.

So what is IANA, and what is basically IANA functions? So IANA is the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority. And when we say, "numbers," it really is not just numbers. IANA is responsible for critical technical

identifiers, which enable the Internet to function. Those are the domain names system, the IP addresses, the number resources, and the protocol parameters.

Those unique identifiers are very critical for the operation of the Internet. We need IP addresses to identify servers and requesters of information of Internet with domain names so we, as humans, we can access websites and information in an easy way, and with web services to operate, using protocols and Internet. So those critical elements for the running of Internet are coordinated globally through the IANA functions.

IANA has been founded in 1988, although the term itself, "IANA," has been learned since 1972. The first one, the reference of the first IANA, has been in an RFC 1060, which was published in 1990. And in that RFC, basically, it mentions IANA functions. And actually, it lists all the previous RFCs. An RFC is the first organized document which is a technical protocol document.

So usually we refer to these resources: the domain names, the numbers, and the protocols. So basically, who are the customers of the IANA function? The customers of the IANA functions are Internet users, which are responsible for managing those resources. So for example, for domain names, [inaudible], request changes, and through the IANA. And when those changes are implemented in the Internet root, we see it, as users. For example, there is a new top-level domain introduced in the Internet. It has to be added to the root. And it has to be referenced in a database or repository. So all the DNS servers will now [inaudible].

---

And that's the function, and that's where IANA comes. But first, [at large] to distributing and managing IP addresses allocation, regional Internet registries, for those to [give that] to [addresses], Internet service providers, and users in the world.

And the protocol parameters community, which is represented by the [inaudible] Task Force, which issues RFCs and protocol parameters for the Internet users are using the IANA services, to have a one-label repository of those protocol parameters [better]. So the IANA function is very critical for the operation of the Internet.

There is lots of misunderstanding and misinformation about what IANA really does and what are the IANA functions. The IANA functions are very narrow technical functions. So IANA does not develop policies, but policies for the domain names and IP allocations and protocol parameters are done and developed within the community, which is basically ICANN and the Internet registries and [inaudible] Task Force. So IANA does not develop any policies.

IANA, as well, does not select or decide on country codes, the two-letter country codes: .uk, .us. Because basically, IANA uses the ISO list 3166-1, which is provided by the International Standard Organization, as reference. And also, there was lots of political misunderstandings to the role of IANA in terms of the management of the country codes. IANA does not decide who manages the country domain names registry. And that decision is made by the local Internet community. IANA does due diligence to ensure that when there is a change request somewhere – a

---

country, from a registry in a country – there's [inaudible] there's checks and balances to ensure that this request is [inaudible].

So and here we come to explain the role of the US Government and IANA. So basically, ICANN continues to perform the IANA function based on a contract between ICANN and the US Department of Commerce. So if ICANN received a request for changes, it's due diligence and [inaudible] required. And then it'd parse this request to DOC for final step before implementation. And that oversight has created lots of misunderstandings about the nature of this role and has put tensions, deep political tensions, about the role of the US Government and this critical function.

So here you can see that IANA is within ICANN. It's a subsidiary of ICANN. And it has a contract with the US Department of Commerce, represented by the NTIA, the National Telecommunications and Information Administration. And that's an oversight contract [inaudible] because that is where the Internet actually initially, and the IANA functions were managed within the US.

So in March 2014, the US Government has announced its intention to give away its stewardship role and oversight role over IANA function, which is managed by ICANN, the local Internet community. And that has been welcomed by everyone in the Internet community, because now we can say that the global Internet community manages the IANA function without intervention from any single government. So the US Government has asked ICANN, because ICANN has been managing IANA functions since 1998, to convene this transition process.

---

And that, by the way, this transition was expected for a long time and basically was part of the early [envisage] privatization plan for the DNS, which was outlined by the US Government in 1997. So it was not a surprise that it gave time, really, for ICANN to mature and for the community to start this process.

There were four guiding principles requested by NTIA within the transition. Basically, the transition need to support and enhance the multistakeholder model, and need to maintain the security and stability of the DNS. And also, we commit to maintain the tradition of the IANA services customers and to sustain the openness of the Internet. NTIA was clear in its announcement that it would not accept a proposal that replaced the current manager of IANA with a government-led organization or an intergovernmental organization, so those are out of the picture.

So the whole community – the domain names community, the numbers community, and the protocol parameters community – started a lengthy process of transition from the US Government stewardship oversight to the global Internet community. And the IANA Coordination Group was formed, representing about 13 different communities from the global Internet community. And each customer's community, the members of the domain names and the protocols had developed their own proposals, which was combined at the end by the ICG. That proposal has been submitted to the NTIA. And if you are following up this process closely, there were heated discussions in the US Congress about the transition of this physical role, from the US Government to

---

the global Internet community. And the US Congress has held two hearings regarding this important transition.

During that process, the community has been working on enhancing the accountability of ICANN, to ensure that after the transitions from the US Government [inaudible] ICANN is continuing its role as a global organization, transparency, and accountable to the community. So this bylaw change is required to ensure the transparency and accountability of ICANN has been implemented. And basically, the NTIA-ICANN contract is expired as of last October. PTI has been established in August in preparation for the expiring of the contract and started operating the IANA functions since October.

So the Public Technical Identifiers are the body, is now managing IANA function. And it's supported from ICANN. It has its own board and has its own technical standards and [inaudible]. The global customers or communities who are benefitting from the IANA functions are the consumers of the PTI. The website of the PTI is [pti.icann.org](http://pti.icann.org) currently, and we're working to establish a dedicated website.

So I'll leave it from here to Lise, and she will give you more details about PTI and its structure. Thank you very much.

LISE FUHR:

Thank you, Mohamed. Good evening, or hello, everyone. I am Lise Fuhr. I'm one of the two co-Chairs of the CWG IANA Stewardship. The other co-Chair was Jonathan Robinson. And as Mohamed is saying, it's been a lengthy process. But I also think it's been a really good one. I've, all



---

through the two years, worked very close with Jonathan, as the other co-Chair, and the group, as such. For me, actually, the whole process is a very good proof of the multistakeholder model, as such. So I will say, it's been hard, but a very educational fall.

I'm not going to talk a whole lot about the process, but I'm only going to mention that after the proposal was submitted and signed off by the different communities, we actually began the implementation. And the CWG Stewardship, which was only created to make a proposal for the transition, actually continued as an implementation team. So everything that was being implemented was done in the spirit of the proposal, and everything was ready for the 1<sup>st</sup> of October.

As you can see, I've chosen to use a picture of Magritte. That's partly because I work in Brussels, but also because I think it's a very good picture of a bit of the surrealism that we have experienced with some of the American protests against all this, but also that what you see if we look at the next picture – sorry – is that a picture of a pipe, or is that a painting? And it all depends on the eyes that look. And it's the same with the multistakeholder model and with the whole proposal. Is it something that's actually going to include the whole Internet world? I do believe it is, but some would say it's only for the very few.

But that's not going to be the discussion as to today. I've made a short agenda on this. I'm going to take you quickly through the composition of PTI and CSC, because I think those are the most important things. And then I will go through the background for the PTI board, tell you a bit of the board composition, and the way forward. I'm not going to go

---

into extreme details, because we have talked a lot about this. We have been through a lot of this. And if you have any questions, feel free to ask them, and I'll do my best to answer them.

I also see I have fellow members from the CWG Stewardship on the call, who I also rely on, can help me if there are any problems with this.

But if we look at before and now, it actually says, "the current contract." It's not the current anymore. It's the old one. But I'm using an old picture. And I know it's a little small, but I hope you can enlarge it to see.

But on the left, you can see that actually before 1<sup>st</sup> of October, NTIA was the oversight. They had the contract with ICANN, and they had the oversight. And having the oversight of IANA actually means that every change in contact person, every change in a name server, every small or little change had to be authorized by NTIA or the US Government. Not that they misused this power at all. I think they did a great job. But that was something that was going to change with the transition. And historical, this was never going to be the case for as long as it was. It was actually in '98-'99, it was foreseen that the transition should have happened much earlier.

But the new model is actually a legal separation of the IANA function into what we called the post-transition IANA. That was short for PTI, and that's also been used for the new name of the organization. But actually, the IANA function being separated into a small affiliate of

---

ICANN, where it has its own board. And this board is consisting of five members. I'm going to explain to you a little more about this.

You also have the Customer Standing Committee. And the Customer Standing Committee is also something that we are going to discuss at a later slide. But this is actually the body that oversees the day-to-day operation of the PTI. They do it on a monthly basis, but they are overseeing that PTI are actually complying with the service level agreements that are between the different customers.

Above the CSC, you see the IANA Functions Review, the IFR. And that group, that's not a standing committee. It's actually a group that will be created when we have the reviews. The reviews is planned – the first one is to take place three years after the creation of PTI. So that's three years from 1<sup>st</sup> of October, '16. And after that, it's every five years, because when we created a proposal, we didn't want to have too many reviews, because you need to give IANA also some peace to operate. And we hope that CSC will manage to untangle any problems that arise along the way of minor character. So the reviews are more to take a sanity check of the structure. Is it working as expected? And how are the satisfaction with the services? This doesn't mean that if a situation arises that cannot be solved easily by the CSC or any other, the board, you can have a special review. But we don't foresee or hope that that will ever happen.

If we go down to the combined proposal, just very quickly, because as you see, there is an agreement between ICANN and PTI. And there is a strong relationship between the naming function and PTI. This is partly

---

because the gTLDs are within the ICANN setup, whereas the protocol and the numbering have a different structure. And while they are related to ICANN, they have a different dependency on ICANN. So those three – IETF and the IRR – are having memorandums of understandings with ICANN. They have a different way of having the oversight, if they are SLEs or SLAs, or if they are complying with the SLAs. So it's a different model, and they're not a part of the Customer Standing Committee. This was an open question from the start that they chose to have this structure when they finalized their proposal. So it's the three communities that are served by PTI, but they have different relationships.

If we look at the Customer Standing Committee, it's actually established to perform, as you see, the operational oversight, which was performed by the US Department. But there is an important change here, where the US Government actually authorized any change. This is not happening with the Customer Standing Committee. They are only monitoring the performance, and they have monthly meetings on the basis of a report that's made by PTI. And actually, they work very closely at the moment, together with PTI, to establish the report they have to receive every month, and the different procedures they will be working after. Because when the proposal was there, it was left to the CSC to establish themselves and then to actually fulfill the frame that was in the proposal, because it was better to have the CSC work together with PTI in order to define and find out the procedures, the reports, how often they want to meet. We proposed once a month, and I believe

---

that's what they do. But it was pretty open, how actually to perform the function itself.

As you can see on this slide, the CSC composition, there are two gTLD registry operators, two ccTLD operators, and there is a liaison from PTI, which is mandatory. And it's mandatory to have one from PTI because we thought it was essential to have someone from PTI to actually be at the CSC meetings, communicate and ensure the whole dialog and flow between CSC and PTI, in order to ensure that the information is there and you don't have any misunderstandings, and expectations are aligned all along the way.

Other liasions were not mandatory and voluntary, and that's from the GNSO, from ALAC, from NRO or ASO, from the GAC, RSSAC, and SSAC. And I believe all has said yes to be a part of this. And I also think the timing right now is very important, because it's now that you've built the CSC, as such, with the procedures, etc. So right now is the moment to be in this group and ensure that you have as much transparency, as much accountability as possible. And all the meetings are open. Everyone can participate. All the reports are open. So it actually should be very transparent. And it's open for everyone to be there if they want to listen in to what's going on.

If we look at the PTI board, it's actually part of the new setup, because if you have a legal separation, you need a separate board. And it's actually – it was chosen together with legal advice that five directors would be the minimum, but we also wanted a board that shouldn't be big and heavy and a complex board. It should be a lightweight board that would

---

handle PTI in a way so you don't make a lot of huge changes, but you actually fulfill the legal requirements when you have an affiliate. So five was chosen.

And on top of that, the PTI was suggested to have three board directors who are employed by ICANN and two additional independent directors, which for the moment are Jonathan and me. We are the independent directors. But we're not nominated by the NomCom, because we're interim for the next year, while NomCom is actually building its procedure and requirements for the independent directors. So from next year, from late next year, there will be two independent directors, which will be nominated by NomCom. But at the moment, the board consists of Elise Gerich, as the president of PTI. We have David Conrad, who is the CTO of ICANN; Akram Atallah, who is the president of Global Domains Division in ICANN; and Jonathan and me.

This [competition] was actually with Elise, David, and Akram, was also a [competition] that we proposed in the proposal, because we wanted to ensure that the president of PTI was there. Akram is the one dealing with PTI matters within ICANN. And also, you have David Conrad, who is being in charge of the technical issues within ICANN. So this [competition] was foreseen to be the best in covering most competence within ICANN. And it was actually [a feel] to cover both the PTI, but also the ICANN responsibilities.

So if we look at the way forward, I told you the PTI board are, at the moment, with interim directors. We have to give time to NomCom to set up the requirements. The PTI board has met three times on a call.

---

And there's one face-to-face. We're going to meet early January or mid-January. All the meeting minutes and etc. are also public. So we're publicizing the board material and a summary of our petitions under the same rules as the ICANN Board.

If we look at the CSC, they are in the startup phase. They're meeting – I can't remember if they've had four meetings, and they are planning to meet face-to-face at every ICANN meeting. So do, actually, the PTI board also plan to meet face-to-face at the ICANN meetings, because it's always good to have the interaction you get from meeting face-to-face, instead of only having calls.

And then, of course, we have the review of PTI that will come in three years' time.

So if we look at it, it's actually that the work has just begun. We have implemented the proposal. But there is still a lot of work ahead of us. There's a lot of new structures that needs to be incorporated that needs to be agreed upon. It is a new culture for PTI. When we did this proposal, there was some concern about being separated. And we need to see how this actually – if people feel now secure that they still have the same position, because there was no intention to actually change the internal organization of PTI in a great way. It was more to do the legal separation. So we have to see how that works out, and also how the CSC is getting along. I have been following some of their threads, and they've been very satisfied with the reports so far from PTI, which for me is a very good sign. And they seem to have a very good flow. But time will show how this will continue.

---

And I know that we were supposed to talk for a whole hour, but I think we should... This is what I have no for the PTI. And I'll hand it over to Tijani to carry on. Thank you.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA:

Thank you very much, Lise. Thank you for this presentation. Thank you, Mohamed, also for your presentation, for your introduction.

Before we move forward, perhaps I will ask Yeşim to present the pop quiz, to see if she is ready with questions.

YEŞİM NAZLAR:

Hi, Tijani. Sure. The first part, with our first question, the first question is, "What are the three critical Internet resources coordinated by IANA, which is now PTI?" Please write your answers in the blank space, and don't forget to click the icon next to it so it will be posted.

This time we have a different pop quiz section. We don't have the multiple-choice questions.

Okay, I see the answers coming through. And I will be asking Mohamed about the correct answers. But I see he has disconnected, unfortunately, and we are trying to reach him out on the phone bridge at the moment. So maybe, Lise, if you would like to answer?



LISE FUHR: Oh, yes, I would. It's actually protocol, numbers, and names. So someone else has said domain names, number resources, and protocol parameter assignments, but that's also completely correct. Thank you.

YEŞİM NAZLAR: Okay. Thanks so much. Let's quickly move on to our second question then. The second question is here now. Oh, and I do see that Mohamed is connected back on the phone bridge.

The second question is, "Why the IANA function is critical to the Internet?" Again, please write your answers in the blank space, and please don't forget to click the icon next to it so we will be receiving your answers.

Let's wait a bit more, because we haven't received any answers yet. Okay. It's coming right now. Perfect.

And, Mohamed, maybe you would like to give us the correct answer for this one?

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: I think that the three answers are all correct. It's to ensure that we have resources allocated properly and are unique, so we can have on interoperable, secure, [reliable] Internet. Sorry, most of the answers combined together, I think they will give [inaudible].

---

YEŞİM NAZLAR: Okay, thanks so much. Let's then move on to our next question, which is, "What is CSC?" Please type your answers.

Okay, we started to receive, perfect. And, Lise, maybe you would like to answer this question?

LISE FUHR: Yes, it's actually Customer Standing Committee. So it's not "community," but that's close enough. So it's good. It's [inaudible] thank you.

YEŞİM NAZLAR: Thanks so much. And now I will move on to our last question. "How big is the board?"

And, Lise, maybe you would like to make a clarification on the question?

LISE FUHR: Oh, sorry, it's, "How many people are on the PTI board?" But it seems that the people are actually getting it, so I only see correct answers. So that's very good. I'm impressed.

YEŞİM NAZLAR: Okay, perfect. So, Tijani, this was the end of our pop quiz section. Would you like to take it over, or would you like me to go ahead with the survey?

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: No. No. Thank you very much, Yeşim. Now we will go to questions and answers, Q&A. It is time now for our attendees to ask questions to the two presenters.

I would like to say that today, Lise is on the PTI board, and Mohamed is the liaison of the ALAC, and that he is on the CSC. So both of them are deeply involved in the process. So please make your [inaudible] and ask them as much questions as you can, as you want, so that you understand better PTI and CSC.

Any questions? I would ask this question, if I may. I would ask them, are the two other communities, other than the naming community, linked or working with PTI? I think it's the question that you should ask.

LISE FUHR: Do you want me to answer that, Tijani?

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Yes, please. What [exactly]?

LISE FUHR: Okay. Actually, they are linked to PTI. They are in communication with PTI. But they do it from a different way. So they just monitor that their service level agreement is being complied with, whereas the other one has an actual group that is in communication every month with the CSC. The others are not in the same structured way. It's not that it's

unstructured, but I don't believe they have monthly meetings with PTI on this.

On another side, I'd like to also inform you, there is a group between that actually consists of both the names and the numbers and the protocols, and actually are looking after the legal issues in relation to the name "IANA" and the domain name. This is placed in the IETF's trust, but there is a group that's in place. So if there is any problem arising with the IP rights, intellectual property rights, in relation to the domain name, this can actually be – this group can be activated and deal with this on behalf of both the names and the numbers and the protocols. Because the name "IANA" is important, and the domain name "IANA" is also important for all the three communities.

That was a little detour. Sorry for this. But okay.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA:

Yes, I understand. I ask this question because if you look at the diagram that you presented, PTI is only for the names, for naming [inaudible]. And the [inaudible] at the beginning, I have the hope – I am not the only one – [inaudible] about [inaudible] have the hope that the PTI would be the old IANA. Means that the three functions would go to it. To be, if you want, operating the three functions. But I understood that neither the numbers community, nor the protocol community, wanted to do that in this way. And that's why they have their own [inaudible] with ICANN.

---

So apparently, there is no relation with PTI for those two functions. But I understand, and that's why we hope that PTI should be coming for all the functions, because you cannot separate the three functions. If you separate them, you lose –

LISE FUHR: But, Tijani?

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Yes?

LISE FUHR: Sorry to interrupt, because there's not any difference from before. The thing is, before PTI was incorporated into ICANN, it was its own department. But the agreements were between IETF and the IRR. This is still the case. It's just that you have, instead of a department within ICANN, it's an affiliate of ICANN, where it actually performs this. So I don't see a huge difference from this. I think it's very much the same setup. Of course, you make the legal separation. But it has always been ICANN, and not IANA, who had the agreements with the other communities too. And PTI are still performing all the technical parts for the protocols and the numbers too.

So for me, it's more something that you see on the overview, where it looks like it's very separated. But I see that Olivier has his hand up. He might want to chime in here too. So he might have a different opinion.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Olivier, go ahead, please.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thank you very much, Tijani. I'm actually not going to comment on this. I was going to ask another question.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Go ahead.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN -LEBLOND: Okay, thanks. So I have a question with regards to the reporting on the service level expectations that have been designed. Until, let me see... I was looking at the IANA website, Internet Assigned Numbers Authority, and the performance standards metrics report have been published all the way until 2006-09-13, because obviously these reports have to be regularly published for ICANN's performance on the IANA functions based on the contract that it had with the US Government.

Now, as we know, that contract finished at the end of September. And I'm looking at where I could find the reports ever since. It seems the IANA page has not been updated. I'm looking at the Public Technical Identifiers webpage, at [pti.icann.org](http://pti.icann.org), and I don't see... I see latest updates, draft PTI FY18 operating plan and budget. I mean, perhaps it would be good to have a link on the IANA website to the new location for these reports. And would you please be so kind as to let me know

---

where the reports are? Because I've read one report that was released, I think, yesterday that was showing that everything was running well, but I just can't find it on any website.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you, Olivier. Lise, please?

LISE FUHR: Yes, thank you. I have not checked up on this, but I'll do that right away, and I'll make sure that they release all of the reports, because it's been the intention all the time. And we have been told that they would make a specific website for PTI where you would have the report, but also all the board material. Because it has been the principle all along that there should be full transparency and accountability on this. So I see something is actually saying it's linked under the CSC subsite.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Correct, I've just looked, it is under the CSC website. But there should be pointers to these things. There should be pointers to the PTI new website and pointers to the CSC website, and it should be made a little bit more welcoming for people. Because at the moment, it looks like the standard ICANN, acronym-filled mumbo jumbo. Thanks.

LISE FUHR: I like that description. I will raise it for the right people. Thank you.

---

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: [inaudible] also.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: [inaudible] Mohamed, yes. Mohamed, please. Go ahead, Mohamed.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Yeah, thank you. Thank you, Olivier, for the question. Yes, the CSC has been the [inaudible] for At-Large and ALAC on this CSC. There has been a lot of discussion about the need for dedicated website for PTI, and that's something that PTI is now working on.

The first report has been circulated in the mailing list. It should be online. But in terms of what needs to be done, in terms of how to disseminate and put information online, I think it's – because PTI is almost one month, or one month and a half now, in terms of [inaudible] incorporation. So [inaudible] there's lots of work to be done on how to communicate the message in a central way. Thank you.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you, Mohamed. Alberto Soto?

ALBERTO SOTO: Thank you very much, Tijani. I asked my question in the chat, but I think it got lost. My question is simple. What is the amount of people? How many people does the PTI have right now to fulfill all its functions? Thank you.



---

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you, Alberto. Lise?

LISE FUHR: I cannot give an exact number, because they are looking into hiring more people. But it's around 18-20 people.

YEŞİM NAZLAR: I just have a head's up from our operator that I think Tijani has dropped. Yep. So we'll be trying to reach out to him as soon as possible. Currently redialing him.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Yeşim, may I, in the meantime, ask a question please, if there is no other person in the queue?

YEŞİM NAZLAR: Yes, please, go ahead.

OLIVIER CRÉPIN-LEBLOND: Thanks very much for this. Just quickly, the nature of the employment of those PTI employees, are they still employed by ICANN now? Has this question been resolved? Or are they contracted over to PTI?

---

LISE FUHR: They are, for the moment, on an ICANN contract, but they are planned to be transferred within two years. So everyone should be transferred within the next two years in order to ensure that all the benefits – so they had the same working conditions. But it is for sure that everyone will be transferred within two years and it's not... Like in the beginning, there was some request for having only newly hired people on a PTI contract, but that has been dropped. It is going to be everyone, but within two years. Thank you.

YEŞİM NAZLAR: We are still trying to reach out to Tijani. Don't have him on the phone bridge yet. Hello, anyone else who would like to ask a question? Actually, I had my hand raised, because there's a question on the AC chat from Abdeljalil Bachar Bong. He's asking, "How can I explain quickly to an end user who don't know about IANA transition about PTI?" Mohamed or Lise, if you would like to answer his question please.

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Thank you. If I can start by answering that and then giving it to [Lise] if she wants. I think in the simple terms, for the Internet services we know, the functions, it means the critical Internet identifiers – IP addresses for users and IP addresses to identify servers providing services to end users, which is directly to numbers, which is we don't like, as humans, to write. That's why we use domain names, which is also even important [inaudible] for us as end users, to use Internet in a

---

simple, friendly way and get information. And further concern is, as well, are important technical standards.

So the IANA ensures that information is provided in a central repository and that we have one resource for this important, critical resources, which have been [inaudible] the Internet. So I think in simple terms, for the Internet to function for us, as end users, IANA plays a critical role in that. And sometimes we don't feel about that. We don't know [inaudible] it's working fine. There are lots of technical people who are doing that work in the PTI world.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA:

Thank you, Mohamed. Thank you for your answer. Is there any other questions? Otherwise, I have one. So my question is, the root zone maintainer contract was renewed with ICANN [inaudible] between Verisign and ICANN. It was a [inaudible] contract. Today, it's a contract that we [inaudible]. If we decided that we are not change Verisign and we will continue to use them as a root zone maintainer, it is because we don't really want to change anything, to make Internet as stable as possible. But if Verisign decided to [make that space] for this contract, why we don't look for other providers [inaudible] very short? Thank you.

Lise or Mohamed?

LISE FUHR: I don't know, Mohamed, if you want to give it a go. I can give it a go, as this was not actually a part of the CWG Stewardship. We didn't really look into it. It was taken out of our scope. So we never looked into it. But I believe this is a part of the wider ICANN accountability and the way that this is actually taken care of by ICANN as a whole. So if there will be a problem and we will be paying for the services, of course, I believe that there would be possibility to look into others to take care of it.

I don't know, Mohamed, if you have anything to add.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Lise, I was not asking the question as the CWG co-Chair, but as a PTI board member.

LISE FUHR: Okay. But for me, this is actually a wider thing. This is a thing that ICANN has with the root zone maintainer. And I'm not completely 100% sure about the responsibilities. And actually, [competence] is here. So I would agree with you. If there was a request for paying for this, we should look into who else could take care of it. And I don't believe it's something that's been made exclusive for the current root zone maintainer. I believe it's something everyone can take care of. But it's not been a part of the [setup] for the proposal, and I don't know how to actually answer it better than saying if the conditions for the contract changes, yes, we should, of course, look into alternatives. Thank you.

---

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you very much, Lise. Mohamed, do you have something to add on the subject?

MOHAMED EL BASHIR: Not much, really. I think Lise maybe in general is saying that everyone as a consumer, and community as a consumer for the IANA function, is looking for the various service level performers are high. And if things change, I think the customers will look at that. The community will choose to look at that. But I don't have really... Unless they have an expected, let's say, outcome or response, but if anything happens [to the development] [inaudible].

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you very much, Mohamed. Any other questions? I see Alberto Soto has a question. Alberto, go ahead.

ALBERTO SOTO: Tijani, this question is a question that I had at the beginning of the IANA transition, specifically because of something really technical. Because what was discussed was if the functions were not performed properly, we should have the possibility to migrate to another provider. And then at that time, I said, well, if you are lawyers, then we should have a technician speak, as well. Because changing a provider is a critical point where the heart of the Internet lies and the functionality of the Internet lies, as well. Evidently, it is not simple to migrate in a very short time to

---

another provider. You need to have a very thought out programming and a very sure, safe programming. Thank you.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA:

Thank you, Alberto. I just [inaudible] and as I said at the beginning, [inaudible] try to change in time because we didn't change a lot of things at the same time, and to have the Internet as stable as possible. But it was under the same conditions. Now it is not under the same conditions. So for the context for this period, it would be very [inaudible]. But what I am saying now is that in the future, since we are paying for it, we have to have more than one provider to choose the best one, at all levels. Thank you.

Any other questions? We still have time. If you don't have questions, I will ask the staff to go to the [survey] questions. And then at the end, perhaps you will have more questions, to ask other questions.

So, Yeşim?

YEŞİM NAZLAR:

Thank you, Tijani. Yes, we do have some survey questions. Let me first pull up the first question. Okay. So the first question is, "How was the timing of the webinar for you? Was it too early, just right, or too late?" Please cast your votes now.

Thank you very much. I'll move on to the second question now. "What region do you live in at the moment? Is it Africa, Asia/Australasia/Pacific

---

Islands, is it Europe, South American/Caribbean Islands, or is it North America?" Please cast your votes now.

Thank you very much. The third question is, "How many years of experience do you have in the ICANN community? Is it less than one year, 1-2 years, 3-5, 5-10, or is it more than 10 years?" And you may cast your votes now.

Thank you very much. Let me move on to the fourth question. "How is the technology used for the webinar?" We are asking about the audio, the video, phone bridge. Please cast your votes now. It will be from 5 to 1, 5 as very good and 1 as very bad. Waiting for your moment.

Thank you very much. Our sixth question is, "Did the speakers demonstrate mastery of the topic?" Please cast your votes now, from 5 to 1, 5 as extremely strong and 1 as extremely weak.

Thank you very much. Our sixth question is, "Are you satisfied with the webinar?" Again, 5 as extremely satisfied and 1 as not satisfied at all. And you may cast your votes now.

Thank you very much. Let me quickly move on to our last question. "What topics would you like us to cover for the future webinars?" And again, just like we did with the pop quiz section, please type your answers in the blank space, and don't forget to click on the icon next to it so we can receive your answers.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you very much, Yesim. This is very important for us. Okay, go ahead. Go ahead, Yesim.

YEŞİM NAZLAR: Sure, thank you. I just wanted to say that I'm going to keep the AC room like this, showing the last question. So anyone who would like to give any response, they can keep on writing their answers until the end of this webinar. So over to you, Tijani. Thank you very much.

TIJANI BEN JEMAA: Thank you, Yeşim. So as I said, this question is very important for us as a working group. We'd like to know what are the topics that you wish part of the program for the next year. So please continue to put your answers in. And if you don't have any now, you can send it in to our staff, to send them the further topics that you wish us to cover for our next program, for the programs of next year.

Okay. So now, we still have time, and we still have two distinguished speakers. Please ask questions. Please tell them what you want them to tell you. It is a unique opportunity for you. We still have 15 minutes. But if you don't have any questions [inaudible] any remark, I will close this webinar.

Thanking first our two speakers, Lise and Mohamed, thank you very, very much. Also, I would like to thank our staff, wonderful staff, and our interpreters. And thank you all for attending this webinar. I hope that you understood better what is particularly PTI and what does it do



---

[inaudible] the CSC, the IFR, etc. Thank you very much, and this webinar is now adjourned.

YEŞİM NAZLAR:

Thank you very much. This webinar is now adjourned. The audio will be now disconnected. Have a lovely rest of the day, and happy holidays and a happy new year. Thank you all. Bye-bye.

**[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]**